

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1551-01
Bill No.: HB 620
Subject: Department of Health to development recommendations on methods of reducing medication errors.
Type: Original
Date: March 27, 2001

FISCAL SUMMARY

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | FY 2004 |
| Local Government | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Health (DOH)** stated the DOH would not anticipate the need for any additional resources to develop recommendations on methods to reduce medication errors. This legislation would not be expected to significantly impact the operations of the DOH. If the proposal were to substantially impact the DOH programs, then the DOH would request funding through the appropriations process.

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development - Division of Public Relations (DED-PR)** did not respond to our request for fiscal impact.

Oversight assumes there would be no impact to the DED-PR.

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u> | FY 2002 (10 Mo.) | FY 2003 | FY 2004 |
|---|---------------------|------------|------------|
| | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
| <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u> | FY 2002 (10 Mo.) | FY 2003 | FY 2004 |
| | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation would mandate the Department of Health, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy and professional licensing boards of health care providers with drug prescribing authority, develop recommendations on methods for reducing medication errors. These methods would include increasing prescription legibility, minimizing confusion in prescription drug labeling and packaging, developing medication error reporting plans, encouraging hospitals and health care organizations to implement proven medication safety practices, including the use of automated drug-ordering systems, reducing confusion created by similar-sounding drug names, and increasing patient education on the medications they are prescribed. The Department of Health is to submit its recommendations to the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2002.

DESCRIPTION (continued)

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Health

NOT RESPONDING: Department of Economic Development - Division of Public Relations

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanne Jarrett". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a cursive "e" at the end.

Jeanne Jarrett, CPA
Director

March 27, 2001